postal circles also to downgrade or dis-coninue certain post offices.

(d) Usually when there is a proposal to downgrade or discontinue a post office, concerned member$_s$ of the public and other interested parties do take up the matter with the concerned postal au'ho-rities. Such representations are received from Kerala and Tamil Nadu Circles also. However, since these decisions are normally 'aken by the field formations (Postal Circles, Postal regions etc,) such representations sent to the appropriate ! authorities for careful consideration before final decisions are taken.

(c) The Department does take special ,! care to see that postal facilities are provided in backward areas to an adequate extent. However, th$_e$ number and status of post offices to be maintained to meet this objective is a matter of establishment detail/norms »«J is $_s$ubject to review from time to time according to the 'iandard procedures.

Shortage of industrial alcohol

1207. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:
SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:
SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are allowing import of industrial alcohol in view of the shortage of this commodity;

(b) if so. what is the quantity and value of the import made so far this year;

(c) whether as reported in the Hindu stan Times of 9th July, 1986, it is also a fact that the major alcohol producing distilleries in Uttar Pradesh are either ly ing closed or utilising less than 25 per cent of their capacity because their storage tanks ar$_e$ already full of alcohol;

(d) wnefber it is also a fact that the distillarii* in Uttar Pradesh ar» not able > to supply alcohol to other S'ates due to th$_e$ high increase in the export pass fee imposed by the State Government and other restrictions placed On its supply to other States; and

(e) if so, what steps are proposed to be taken by the Central Government to persuade the Utta$_r$ Pradesh Government to allow export of alcohol to other States wihout such hinderance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNA-CHALAM): (a) and (b) About 900 lakh. li'res of alcohol (denatured) has been permitted to actual users (industrial) for duty free import during February, 1985 to June, 1986. The informaMon of quantities actually imported and value thereof is not readily available.

(c) and (d) As per the information received from U.P. Government, as against the total allocated quantity of 350 lakh litres so far for the year (Dec., 1985— Nov., 1986) the distilleries in U.P: supplied 36.223 lakh litres of alcohol to other States during the period from 1st December, 1985 to 31st May, 1986.

(e) In order to speed up the lifting of alcohol the Government of U.P. has been requested to reduce the duties.

Setting up of chemical factories

1208. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a maority of chemical factories have ben set up near the big cities and densely populated areas;

(b) if so, whether Government are considering to get these factories shifted to som$_e$ other safer places in view of frequent incidents of leakage of poisonous gas in the past;

(c) what are the names of the factories which are proposed to be shifted from Delhi and to which are the places these factories are likely to be shifted to; and

(d) if these factories are not proposed to be shifted what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (d). While it may not be correct to say that the majority of such factories are located only in big cities, State Governments were requested to set up expert groups to make a quick survey of the chemical units in the respective States/Union Territories for the purpose of identifying chemical processes and hazardous industries. The question of closing such an individual unit and/or shifting it to another place will be dependent on tho condition prevailing in the unit, particularly the factors relating to safety to man and environment. The concerned State Statutory authorities will, no doubt, take appropriate action in this regard.

बिहार में मुंगेर, भागलपुर, जमालपुर आदि में डायल घुमा कर सीधे टेलीफोन करने की सुविधा

1209. श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि बिहार में मुंगेर, भागलपुर, जमालपुर और बरियारपुर में डायल घुमा कर सीधे टेलीफोन करने की सुविधा (एस०टी०डी०) उपलब्ध कराने के लिये बार-बार अनेक अनुरोध किए गए हैं और क्या इसके लिये संसाधन उपलब्ध हैं ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस कार्य की प्रगति में क्या रुकावटें हैं; और

(ग) इन नगरों को डायल घुमाकर सीधे टेलीफोन करने की सुविधा (एस०टी० डी०) के कब तक जोड़ दिये जाने की संभावना है ?

संचार मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री राम निवास मिर्धा) : (क) जी, हां । इस उद्देश्य से समीत संसाधन उपलब्ध हैं ।

(ख) (1) मुंगेर, भागलपुर और जमालपुर के लिये संचारण माध्यम अभी तैयार नहीं है । कार्य चल रहा है ।

(2) भागलपुर में एक मैनुअल एक्सचेंज है । इसे आटोमेटिक बनाने का कार्य किया जा रहा है ।

(3) बरियारपुर में एस०टी०डी० सुविधा फिलहाल उपलब्ध नहीं है क्योंकि यह एक छोटा एक्सचेंज है ।

(ग) (1) मुंगेर और भागलपुर: इन दोनों स्टेशनों के लिये एस०टी०डी० सुविधायें 1987 के दौरान प्रदान करने की सम्भावना है ।

(2) जमालपुर: यहां एस०टी०डी० सुविधा सातवीं योजना के दौरान प्रदान किये जाने की आशा है ।

पैट्रोरसायन उद्योगों की स्थापना

1210. श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव: क्या पैट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि बरौनी तेल कारखाने के प्रमुख उत्पादकों के आधार पर 110 उद्योग तथा हजारों आनुषंगिक उद्योग स्थापित किये जा सकते हैं ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो सरकार ने इस संबंध में अब तक क्या कार्यवाही की है ; और

(ग) केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा बार-बार आश्वासन दिये जाने के बावजूद भी देश में पेट्रोरसायन संयंत्र स्थापित न किये जाने के क्या कारण हैं ?

विद्युत विभाग में राज्य मंत्री तथा पैट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती सुशीला रोहतगी): (क) बरौनी रिफाइनरी के उत्पादों, जैसे स्लैक वैक्स, पैट्रोलियम कोक, फिनोल एक्स्ट्रेक्ट तथा नैफ्था पर आधारित उद्योग स्थापित करना संभव है ।

(ख) यहां तक उद्यमी तथा फीड स्टाक उपलब्ध है ऐसा किया जा रहा है ।

(ग) देश में पेट्रोरसायन संयंत्र स्थापित करना विभिन्न तकनीकी आर्थिक कारणों पर निर्भर करता है जिसमें फीड स्टाक की मांग/पूर्ति तथा उपलब्धता शामिल है ।